

Appl. No. 10/506,996
Amdt. Dated Jan. 31, 2006
Reply to Office Action of Nov. 17, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (currently amended)

A self-clinching cable hook having self-clinching attachment means, comprising:
a substantially rectangular base having a planar bottom surface and further
including self-clinching panel attachment means structures located on opposing front and rear side
surfaces thereof;
a hook portion extending upwardly from said base, said hook portion including
upper and lower jaws forming a substantially circular C-shaped hook with a frontal opening of
substantially less than 180 degrees measured from an axis of the hook, said opening located
between spaced ends of said jaws; and
a single laterally extending notch on the inside surface of said upper jaw proximate
said frontal opening.

Claim 2 (original) The device of claim 1 wherein said jaws have a continuous arcuate
inside surface except for said notch.

Claim 3 (original) The device of claim 2 wherein said base further includes orientation
marks on the bottom planar surface thereof proximate only one of said front or rear sides.

Claim 4 (currently amended) The device of claim 1 wherein said panel attachment means
structures are deformer undercut grooves for receiving the cold flow of metal from a panel
attached thereby.

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Claim 5 (currently amended) The device of claim 1 further including an insert which encompasses the inside surface of the jaws and partially encompasses the lateral sides of the fastener jaws adjacent the lateral opening.

Claim 6 (currently amended) The device of claim 5 wherein the insert covers the side edges of the jaws.

Claim 7 (currently amended) The device of claim 6 wherein said insert further includes a an inwardly pivotable flap that lies across the frontal opening within said hook between said jaws to positively retain items held within the hook.

Claim 8 (original) The device of claim 7 wherein the flap is unitary with said insert and resiliently biased toward a closed position.

Claim 9 (currently amended) The device of claim 1 further including a spring-biased catch which covers the frontal opening of the fastener to positively retain items held within the hook.

Claim 10 (currently amended) The device of claim 9 wherein said insert includes further including two opposing ears which have inward-facing dimples that engage cooperating recesses on opposite sides of the lower jaw to provide a pivot for said catch.

Claim 11 (original) The device of claim 10 wherein said insert includes a tail portion which is free to slide against the inside surface of the lower jaw to provide a spring force to close said catch.

Claim 12 (original) The device of claim 11 wherein said insert is composed of metal.

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Claim 13 (original) The device of claim 11 wherein said insert is composed of an electrically non-conductive thermoplastic.

Claim 14 (original) The device of claim 5 further described in that said insert is a continuous cylinder covering said frontal opening.

Claim 15 (currently amended)

A self-clinching cable hook having self-clinching attachment means, comprising:
a substantially rectangular base having a planar bottom surface and further including self-clinching panel attachment means structures located on opposing front and rear side surfaces thereof;

a hook portion extending upwardly from said base, said hook portion including upper and lower jaws forming a substantially C-shaped hook with a frontal opening located between spaced ends of said jaws;

a single laterally extending notch on the inside surface of said upper jaw proximate said frontal opening; and

said base further including orientation marks on the bottom planar surface thereof proximate only one of said front or rear sides.